extent of shortfall in the availability of indigenous sugar for meeting the requirement of internal consumption. As per State Trading Corporation's contracts with the foreign suppliers of sugar, the suppliers can ship sugar of any origin (including U.K.) except South Africa and Israel.

Licences for Export of Frogs

2348. SHRI D. HEERACHAND: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any rule according to which frogs are to be killed for export of frog-legs only after they are stunned by electrical method developed by the College of Fisheries, Mangalore;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) when such a rule was framed and since when it became operative;

(d) whether it is a fact that only those processors who use the above method are given licences for export of frog-legs; and

(e) if so, what is the number of licences issued by the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin and similar other authorities for such exports so far during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c) Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has laid down guidelines on the procedure to be adopted for humane killing of frogs using the electrical stunning method developed by the College of Fisheries, Mangalore and as modified by the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology. These guidelines were issued under Export Control Order in June, 1985.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The above guidelines became operative only during the year 1985-86. There are 31 certified exporters of frog-legs registered with the Marine Products Export Development Authority.

Hiring Areas for Pavilions in the Congress Centenary Exhibition in Bombay

†2349. A. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had issued a directive to the Nationalised Banks and Public Sectors Units all over the country to hire more areas for the Pavilions in the Congress Centenary Exhibition in Bombay on 16th December, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what was the total amount advanced by the public sector units by way of buying the space in the Exhibition and at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Finance had not issued any directives to the banks, financial institutions and other Undertakings under its administrative control in regard to participation in Congress Centenary Exhibition at Bomaby. However, they were permitted to take decisions in the matter in the light of their own commercial judgement.

(c) According to information readily available the Joint Publicity Committee (JPC), on behalf of all the Public Sector Banks, and the Life Insurance Corporation and the General Insurance Corporation had taken up a stall space of 1000 sq. ft. each for their commercial publicity at a cost of Rs. 1.5 lakhs each in Centenary Industrial Exhibition held in Bomaby in December, 1985/January, 1986.

†Previously Unstarred Question 2024 transferred from the 17th March, 1986.